

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) A configuration management system comprising:  
a memory component:

an operating system registry of a computer, the operating system registry stored on the memory component, a plurality of versions of a single application being installed on the computer, the operating system registry that stores a standardized configuration store that stores  
persisted information associated with settings for each of a plurality of instances of the plurality of versions of the single [[an]] application onto the memory component according to a uniform semantics scheme, the storage of persisted information for each of the plurality of instances isolated from persisted information for all of the remaining plurality of instances, the persisted information being isolated according to a unique namespace for each instance; and

a configuration service component that manages access to the standardized configuration store and converts information associated with the application into the persisted information associated with each of the plurality of instances of the application;

wherein each unique namespace for each instance of the plurality of installed versions of the single application is derived from each of the following: a name of the application, a version of the instance of the application, a language of the instance of the application, a deployment id for the instance of the application, a processor architecture for the instance of the application and a public key token of the instance of the application.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, the information associated with an application is at least one of configuration information or dependency information.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the configuration service component receives a manifest associated with the application, the manifest comprising at least one of configuration and dependency information associated with the application, and the

configuration service component converts and stores at least some of the manifest information in the configuration store.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42, wherein the manifest is based, at least in part, upon a schema.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein the schema is XML-based.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42, wherein the manifest employing at least one of strong typing, validation, and assertions.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42, wherein the configuration service component compiles at least one of manifest information into a namespace, the configuration service component providing access to the namespace.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, further comprising a configuration management engine that identifies configuration information within the persisted information and facilitates management of at least a portion of the configuration information.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, the configuration service component facilitating access to a legacy store.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, the legacy store comprising a registry.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, the configuration service component facilitating at least one management service.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, the management service

comprising at least one of a group policy component and a roaming component.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, the management service facilitating at least one of install, usage, servicing, uninstall, roaming, migration, setup, provisioning, policy, backup and/or restore.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, further comprising an assertion engine that facilitates administration of a validation rule by the configuration service component.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, further comprising a notification handler that provides information associated with a configuration change of the application to at least one of the application and another application.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, further comprising a legacy handler that facilitates synchronization of the system with a legacy store.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 55, the legacy store comprising a registry.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the configuration service component facilitates transacted commits for saving related changes together in the configuration store.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the configuration service component employs at least one of ACL-based security and role-based security are provided at per-setting granularity.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the configuration service component facilitates change logs and history.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the configuration store comprises a joint engine technology database that stores a settings namespace.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, wherein a namespace comprises metadata on settings comprising types, attributes, and user context, the namespace further comprising instance values of the settings.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 61, wherein at least one of the metadata on the settings and instance values of the settings is stored for each user context.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein at least one of URI and Xpath can access a setting within a namespace as well as in between namespaces.

64. (Currently Amended) A configuration management system comprising:

an operating system registry of a computer, a plurality of versions of a single application being installed on the computer, the operating system registry ~~a local cache~~ that at least temporarily storing ~~stores~~ changes to persisted information associated with settings for the plurality of versions of the single ~~an~~ application; and

a configuration management engine that facilitates communication of the changed persisted information stored in the operating system registry ~~local cache~~ to a configuration service component, the configuration management engine facilitating an isolation of the changed persisted information at least until a notification is received that the changed persisted information has been committed to the operating system registry, the persisted information being isolated according to a unique namespace for each instance of the plurality of installed versions of the single application;

wherein each unique namespace for each instance of the plurality of installed versions of the single application is derived from each of the following: a name of the application, a version of the instance of the application, a language of the instance of the application, a deployment id for the instance of the application, a processor architecture for the instance of the application and a public key token of the instance of the application.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 64, the persisted information comprising at least a standardized representation of configuration information.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 65, the configuration information comprises at least information other than dependency information.

67. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating configuration management in an operating system registry of a computer, a plurality of versions of a single application being installed on the computer, the method comprising:

receiving a manifest associated with a version among the plurality of installed versions of the single [[an]] application, the manifest comprising at least configuration information and dependency information associated with a plurality of instances of the version of the single application;

registering the manifest;

processing the manifest to generate persisted information associated with settings for each of the plurality of instances of the application from at least one of the configuration information or the dependency information for each of the plurality of instances; and

storing at least some of the persisted information in the operating system registry a standardized configuration store in system memory of the computer according to a uniform semantics scheme, the persisted information for each of the plurality of instances isolated from persisted information for all of the remaining plurality of instances, the persisted information being isolated according to a unique namespace for each instance;

wherein each unique namespace for each instance of the version of the single application is derived from each of the following: a name of the application, a version of the instance of the application, a language of the instance of the application, a deployment id for the instance of the application, a processor architecture for the instance of the application and a public key token of the instance of the application.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, further comprising compiling at least a portion of the persisted information into a namespace.

69-75. (Cancelled)